Nile Oil Project (GNOP) in Sudan from Talisman Energy Inc. Canada investing US$ 720 million (Rs. 3,456 crore approximately) on 12th March 2003, after due assessment of the risks and the mitigating factors.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) OVL has informed that they have taken standard political risk insurance policy covering confiscation, expropriation, nationalization and selective discrimination to the extent available.

New retail outlets of BPCL

976. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to open new retail outlets of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL);

(b) if so, how many of them will be opened in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) by when they will be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL) has proposal to set up retail outlet dealership in the country, including 12 outlets in the State of Andhra Pradesh, out of the Government approved marketing plans. In additional, regular surveys are carried out and locations found economically viable and having sufficient potential, are identified for setting up of retail outlets in all the States including Andhra Pradesh.

Cost and time overrun of Sakhlain-I project

977. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India in Sakhlain-I oil/gas project in USSR, is facing time and cost overruns even after having invested a whopping US$ 1.422 billion;

(b) if so, whether this is due to Moscow not clearing the feasibility report on flimsy pretexts;

(c) whether according to ONGC Videsh Ltd.'s estimation, the crude from Sakhlain-I is set to flow by 2005; and